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Group 3700

Practitioner's Docket No. 16904-726

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Knowlton)
Serial No.: 09/003,423) Group No.: 3739
Filed: 01/06/1998) Examiner: Shay, D.
For: Method and Apparatus for Controlled)
Contraction of Collagen Tissue)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT

This is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 1999, on or before the current due date of April 14, 1999. Please consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

B1
56C1
1. (Amended) A method of treating a skin surface with a wrinkle, the skin surface overlying a collagen containing tissue, comprising:
identifying a person suspected of having a skin surface with a wrinkle;
providing an energy source with an energy delivery surface;
positioning the energy delivery surface in contact with the skin surface;
creating a reverse thermal gradient, wherein a temperature of the skin surface is less than a temperature of the collagen containing tissue;
delivering energy through the skin surface to the collagen containing tissue and contract at least a portion of the collagen containing tissue with controlled cell necrosis; and
reducing a depth of the wrinkle.

B2
56C3
6. (Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
a source of electrolytic media coupled to the RF electrode.